



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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Virginia man wanted for scamming elderly woman

Police asking for public's help in finding the suspect; may be other victims

Howard County police have issued an arrest warrant for a Virginia man who is wanted in connection with a scam involving an elderly resident. Detectives are asking for the public's help in his apprehension.

Jamie Alexander Fisher, 34, of Winchester, Va., faces charges of theft, theft scheme, acting as a contractor without a license and selling home improvement services without a license. Police believe Fisher and another man, who remains unidentified, posed as contractors and intimidated the victim into paying them \$6,000.

On June 20, the victim, who lives in the 8200 of Elberta Drive in Ellicott City, told police that two men, one later identified as Fisher, came to her home on May 21 and began spraying something on her front lawn. When she asked them to stop, Fisher told her that she or her husband had signed a contract in 2010, but he could not produce the contract. He told the victim that he was there to continue the service and demanded payment. He advised her that she could "buy out" of the contract for \$6,000. She wrote him a check for a portion of the money.

She reported that Fisher visited the home again on June 18 and demanded the rest of the \$6,000 payment. The woman provided another check. Two days later, she contacted police.

Through investigation, police developed Fisher as a suspect. Police believe he is driving a white 2003 GMC Yukon with Virginia tags.

Police remind residents:

- To be wary of anyone who begins performing yard work or home improvement services without their consent and then demands payment. Call police immediately in such circumstances.
- Don't feel pressured to make a decision on the spot.
- Contractors must be licensed to perform the work.
- Don't share personal or financial information.

Police believe Fisher may be linked to other cases in the area. Anyone with information is asked to call 410-313-STOP.

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